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WASHINGTON, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1998

No. 131

Senate

The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, September 28, 1998, at 12 noon.

House of Representatives

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1998

The House met at 9 a.m.

The Reverend Dr. Ronald F. Christian, Director of Lutheran Social Service, Northern Virginia, Fairfax, Virginia, offered the following prayer:

Oh God,

You frustrate the work of the wicked and You give peace to seekers of righteousness.

The pursuits of the selfish You thwart, and the desires of the greedy You crush.

We know, oh God, that mercy is Your primary work and that justice is Your constant demand.

So, we pray this day,

Let no choice nor decision of ours be made without the thoughtful concern for the widow, the orphan, and the stranger among us.

Let our earnest petition this day be for compassionate hearts towards all those who suffer from the ravages of disease or despair.

Oh God, with confidence in Your abundant grace, with certainty in Your steadfast love, with joy in Your constant mercy, and with assurance in Your powerful shalom

May our work this day be truly that of Yours; walking humbly, doing good, and seeking right.

We ask Your blessing and benediction, Oh God, on our day and our deeds.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the Chair's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER. Evidently a quorum is not present.

The Sergeant at Arms will notify absent Members.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 334, nays 50, answered "present" 2, not voting 48, as follows:

[Roll No. 467]

YEAS—334

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Allen
Andrews
Archer
Armey
Bachus
Baesler
Baker
Baldacci
Ballenger
Barcia
Barr
Barrett (NE)
Barrett (WI)
Bartlett
Bass
Bereuter
Berry

Bilirakis
Bishop
Blagojevich
Bliley
Blumenauer
Blunt
Boehkert
Boehner
Bonilla
Bono
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd
Brady (TX)
Brown (OH)
Bryant
Bunning
Burr
Buyer

Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Canady
Cannon
Capps
Cardin
Carson
Castle
Chabot
Chambliss
Chenoweth
Christensen
Clayton
Coble
Collins
Combest
Condit
Conyers

Cook
Cooksey
Costello
Coyne
Cramer
Cubin
Cummings
Cunningham
Danner
Davis (FL)
Davis (IL)
Davis (VA)
Deal
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
DeLay
Deutsch
Dickey
Dicks
Dingell
Dixon
Doggett
Dooley
Doolittle
Dreier
Duncan
Dunn
Edwards
Ehlers
Ehrlich
Emerson
Engel
Eshoo
Etheridge
Evans
Everett
Ewing
Farr
Fawell
Foley
Forbes
Ford
Fossella
Frank (MA)
Franks (NJ)
Frelinghuysen
Frost
Gallegly
Ganske
Gejdenson
Gekas
Gilchrist

Gillmor
Gilman
Goode
Goodlatte
Goodling
Gordon
Graham
Granger
Greenwood
Hall (OH)
Hall (TX)
Hamilton
Hansen
Hastert
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Hefner
Herger
Hill
Hilleary
Hinojosa
Hobson
Holden
Hooley
Horn
Hostettler
Houghton
Hoyer
Hunter
Hutchinson
Hyde
Inglis
Istook
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee
(TX)
Jefferson
Jenkins
John
Johnson (CT)
Johnson (WI)
Johnson, Sam
Kanjorski
Kelly
Kennedy (MA)
Kennedy (RI)
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kim
Kind (WI)
King (NY)
Kingston

Klecza
Klug
Knollenberg
Kolbe
LaHood
Lampson
Lantos
Largent
Latham
LaTourette
Lazio
Leach
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Livingston
Lofgren
Lowey
Lucas
Luther
Maloney (NY)
Manton
Manzullo
Markey
Mascara
Matsui
McCarthy (MO)
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McGovern
McHale
McHugh
McInnis
McIntosh
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinney
Meehan
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Menendez
Metcalf
Mica
Millender-
McDonald
Miller (CA)
Miller (FL)
Minge
Mink
Moakley
Mollohan

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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H8933

Moran (VA)	Rodriguez	Souder
Murtha	Roemer	Spence
Myrick	Rohrabacher	Spratt
Nadler	Ros-Lehtinen	Stabenow
Neal	Rothman	Stark
Nethercutt	Roukema	Stearns
Neumann	Roybal-Allard	Stenholm
Ney	Royce	Stokes
Northup	Rush	Strickland
Norwood	Ryun	Stump
Nussle	Salmon	Sununu
Obey	Sanchez	Talent
Ortiz	Sanders	Tanner
Owens	Sandlin	Tauscher
Oxley	Sanford	Taylor (NC)
Packard	Sawyer	Thomas
Pallone	Scarborough	Thornberry
Pappas	Schumer	Thune
Parker	Scott	Thurman
Pascrell	Sensenbrenner	Tierney
Pastor	Serrano	Torres
Paul	Sessions	Trafficant
Paxon	Shadegg	Turner
Pease	Shaw	Upton
Peterson (MN)	Shays	Vento
Peterson (PA)	Sherman	Walsh
Petri	Shimkus	Wamp
Pitts	Shuster	Watkins
Pombo	Sisisky	Watt (NC)
Pomeroy	Skaggs	Watts (OK)
Portman	Skeen	Weldon (FL)
Price (NC)	Skelton	Weldon (PA)
Quinn	Smith (NJ)	Wexler
Radanovich	Smith (OR)	Weygand
Rahall	Smith (TX)	White
Rangel	Smith, Adam	Wilson
Redmond	Smith, Linda	Wise
Regula	Snowbarger	Wolf
Riley	Snyder	Woolsey
Rivers	Solomon	Wynn

NAYS—50

Aderholt	Gutknecht	Moran (KS)
Becerra	Hefley	Oberstar
Bonior	Hilliard	Pickett
Borski	Hinche	Poshard
Brady (PA)	Hoekstra	Ramstad
Brown (CA)	Hulshof	Rogan
Clay	Johnson, E. B.	Sabo
Clyburn	Jones	Schaffer, Bob
DeFazio	Klink	Slaughter
English	Kucinich	Stupak
Ensign	LaFalce	Thompson
Fattah	Lewis (GA)	Velazquez
Filner	Lipinski	Waters
Fox	LoBiondo	Weller
Gibbons	Maloney (CT)	Whitfield
Green	McDermott	Wicker
Gutierrez	McNulty	

ANSWERED "PRESENT"—2

Reyes	Smith (MI)
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NOT VOTING—48

Barton	Fowler	Pickering
Bateman	Furse	Porter
Bentsen	Gephardt	Pryce (OH)
Berman	Gonzalez	Riggs
Bilbray	Goss	Rogers
Brown (FL)	Harman	Saxton
Burton	Kaptur	Schaefer, Dan
Callahan	Kasich	Tauzin
Clement	Kennelly	Taylor (MS)
Coburn	Martinez	Tiahrt
Cox	McCrery	Towns
Crane	McDade	Visclosky
Crapo	Morella	Waxman
Diaz-Balart	Olver	Yates
Doyle	Payne	Young (AK)
Fazio	Pelosi	Young (FL)

□ 0928

So the Journal was approved.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. THORNBERRY). Will the gentleman from New York (Mr. SOLOMON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. SOLOMON led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain one-minute after legislative business has been completed.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 59

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to remove my name as a cosponsor of H.R. 59.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

TAXPAYER RELIEF ACT OF 1998

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 4579) to provide tax relief for individuals, families, and farming and other small businesses, to provide tax incentives for education, to extend certain expiring provisions, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. When proceedings were postponed on Friday, September 25, 1998, 30 minutes of debate remained on the bill.

Pursuant to the order of the House of that day, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARCHER) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. RANGEL), each have 15 minutes of debate remaining on the bill.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARCHER).

Mr. ARCHER. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. BLILEY), respected chairman of the Committee on Commerce.

(Mr. BLILEY asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BLILEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the legislation.

Mr. Speaker, today we vote to address a simple question: Whether we are going to let our constituents keep more of their hard earned money or whether this money will go to the Federal bureaucrats and to additional Clinton big government programs. While some of my Democratic colleagues on the other side of the aisle may struggle with this question, to me, the answer is crystal clear. Americans deserve to keep more of what they earn. Americans deserve a tax cut now.

The Taxpayer Relief Act will let Americans who go to work everyday to keep more and save more of what they earn. Under this legislation, Americans will see Congress return 80 billion dollars of the people's money to the people who earned it.

At the same time, the responsible legislation we passed yesterday upholds Congress' duty to preserve and protect Social Security by setting aside 90 percent of the budget surplus—

approximately 1.4 trillion dollars—to save Social Security.

Mr. Speaker, the Taxpayer Relief Act is even-handed and responsible, providing tax relief to a broad range of Americans.

For example, middle income Americans will see relief from one of the most unfair and ill conceived taxes—the marriage penalty tax. In my home state, nearly 1.2 million Virginians will see an average of 243 dollars per person returned to them as a result of relief from the marriage penalty tax. That is 243 dollars which the government had penalized them—simply for living in wedlock—before the passage of this act.

The Taxpayer Relief Act also gives the self-employed something which everyone agrees is needed—affordable health care. Self-employed workers, including farmers, may deduct 100 percent of their health care costs under this legislation. In the end, this will be good for the strength of American business and good for the health of American families.

Upon passage of this legislation, Virginians will receive approximately 617 dollars per tax filer. \$617 of their money. \$617 to spend on food, \$617 to save for the future, or \$617 to put toward their children's education.

Mr. Speaker, this is their money. Americans deserve a tax cut and I urge my colleagues to support the Taxpayer Relief Act.

Mr. ARCHER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SAM JOHNSON), one of America's great heroes, a member of the Committee on Ways and Means.

(Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Americans are tired of being overtaxed just for being married, for staying healthy, for saving, for starting their own business or for producing food at our tables. I agree, the government has no right to take so much from hard-working people. That is why this bill is so important. It returns \$80 billion to the rightful owners, the American people.

This bill gives 48 million taxpayers relief from the marriage penalty. Millions of families will not be taxed on their savings. Farmers and the self-employed will be able to deduct 100 percent of their health insurance costs. Seniors can continue to lead productive lives without being penalized and, guess what, several tax forms are going to be eliminated.

The Democrats are wrong in this instance. They say these very people that do not deserve any of the surplus that you, the American people, created. Democrats say government should keep it and spend it to create new government programs. It is time to reward the American taxpayers. The truth must be told and scare tactics need to end.

Social Security will be protected. Americans want, need and deserve tax relief. After all, it is their own money.

Let us give some of it back to them.

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I want to set an atmosphere here. Yesterday, the President of the United